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FAC Chapter 5: Philosophy alongside Education

From reading the chapter based educational philosophy, I am able to conclude that there are two philosophical theories that fit my preference of teaching and approaching a lesson. The two theories is the approach on constructivism in the student-centered category, and the role of essentialism in the teacher-centered category.

The approach of constructivism has grasped my attention for being more hands on with students. From my point of view, Constructivism is a great way for teachers to play the facilitating role and let students construct knowledge for themselves. When thinking about how I want to teach, I would like to see my students infer and discover their own answers. Thus, utilizing problem-solving and learning activities with students can help them formulate and test their ideas. This will allow students to draw their own conclusions from what they already know based on their prior knowledge outside of a classroom. Instead of approaching a lesson with facts based on text, students will be able to construct knowledge by answering open-ended questions and solving real-world problems. Students are able to voice their opinions listen to the viewpoints of others. This creates a learning environment where everyone is participating.

Another philosophical theory, the approach of essentialism seems to fit into my style of preference for teaching students. I do agree on the basis that student should have some knowledge prior to education. Schools should provide the necessary materials to cater to students. The role of the student is to be the learner and coming to an educational institution is a place where students come to learn. While the role of teacher is the best suitable to teach students. There is the capacity that lectures are beneficial for students, seeing it as an opportunity to deliver many details on topics. While on most days, class discussion and interacting with the class will make the lesson more interactive.

From my experience, teachers who engaged the students with various discussions allows the students to think critically. There was a teacher in the high school I attended, that would incorporate discussions about politics. It made the class more sociable and helped students share their opinions with one another. The teacher was able to play the facilitator role, while the students were able to generate and form their own ideas. The teacher is someone I would model my teaching style, because his teaching was something I admired. Instead of providing information through books and test, we were able to do class discussions and reference what we learned outside of a classroom.